

them the language skills they will need to succeed in later life.

All three of these educators are a credit to the Navarro Independent School District. Teachers like them make our communities stronger and ensure a brighter future for our children. I am proud to have the chance to honor them here today.

HONORING COLLEEN CONWAY AS
A ST. PAUL AREA ATHENA
AWARD WINNER FOR 2005

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colleen Conway, of Woodbury, Minnesota, as a St. Paul Area Athena Award winner for 2005. She is one of 33 female athletes to receive this award, which stands for character, longevity and durability. It is given for outstanding athletic achievement.

Colleen is a three-sport standout at Hill-Murray, a Catholic school she has attended since 7th grade. She plays soccer, hockey and softball, earning 14 varsity letters in total. She was an all-state shortstop as a junior softball player, has been named all-conference twice in softball and led the hockey team in scoring this past year. In soccer, she has played every position and once even played them all in the same game. She has earned a softball scholarship to the University of Minnesota for the fall.

A typical summer day would find her playing all three sports, morning until night. Even with all this activity, she maintains a 3.8 grade point average in school. In her spare time, she also helps out at her family-owned bakery in Woodbury.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to represent such a motivated and talented young woman. I join with her family, teachers, coaches and teammates in celebrating Colleen's outstanding accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF LA RED HEALTH
CENTER

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the La Red Health Center, located in Georgetown, Delaware. La Red is an important and effective health care provider for the residents of Sussex County. The center provides bilingual high-quality and cost-effective primary and preventive medical care to over 5,000 Sussex County residents who are uninsured, underinsured or face other barriers to medical care. La Red's importance is highlighted by the fact that the United States Census Bureau finds Sussex County to possess the fastest growing Latino and African American populations in Delaware. With such growth, there are limited medical resources to meet the unique needs of these populations. For this reason, La Red's recent attainment of federally qualified

health center status by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is so important and exciting.

The center will receive \$650,000 in federal funding each year for the next three years. La Red will also receive \$200,000 a year for the next three years through the Rural Health Outreach Program, to support La Red's Prenatal Program. La Red has faced many hurdles on the path to receiving this distinction, facing challenges to secure funding and reach out to underserved populations.

In addition to the Congressional Delegation of Delaware, the staff at La Red deserve our highest praise. Over the past few years, they have managed to improve and expand services, while simultaneously reaching out to the Sussex community. By qualifying for health center status, La Red will continue to improve its services with such federal privileges as: the 340 B Federal Discount Drug program, which allows La Red to get discount rates on prescription drugs; applying for federal tort claims, which provides insurance to the center; and receiving federally funded technical assistance.

This is a very exciting time for La Red, but even more so for the growing number of patients in Sussex County—they have a reliable and quality health center they can turn to in times of need.

HONORING THE ECLC SCHOOL OF
NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ECLC School of New Jersey, in the Borough of Chatham, in Morris County, a vibrant community I am proud to represent! On May 5, 2005, the ECLC School is celebrating its Thirty-Fifth Anniversary.

For 35 years, the ECLC has been an accredited nonprofit school, providing special education for children. The children have severe learning and/or language disabilities, autism, or multiple disabilities. Students go to the ECLC School when their local public school determines that an out of district placement is needed. The school also serves an additional 110 young adults with Community Personnel Services (CPS), their supported employment program.

The ECLC School's mission is to help each child develop socially, emotionally, academically and physically. The program integrates academics with speech, language, physical and occupational therapies, counseling, social skills development, vocational preparation, activities of daily living and real job experiences. The goal is to prepare their students to face the world of work and to prepare them to integrate into the communities in which they live.

At the ECLC School, administrators, teachers and parents believe that maintaining student individuality is paramount to success. Because children's needs are always changing, the program is designed with flexibility in mind. Students work at their own pace, using a variety of creative and motivating materials. Students are measured by their own successes, of which there are many!

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of

the ECLC School of NJ on the celebration of its thirty-five years serving Morris County and Central New Jersey! And special praise is due to their dedicated administration, wonderful teachers, support staff, volunteers and active parents who work tirelessly on behalf of the disabled community.

CELEBRATING EL DIA DE LOS
NIÑOS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of El Dia De Los Niños. This event, held in Laredo every year on April 30, celebrates our children, the architects of our nation's future.

El Dia De Los Niños celebrates family values, and encourages children to develop the skills and habits that will help them in later life. This holiday is celebrated in over 75 cities throughout the United States and Latin America. The Laredo celebration has grown explosively, from a few hundred in 1999 to 14,000 adults and children in 2004.

This year's celebration will be organized by Mary Capello and the Texas Migrant Council, and will include an essay contest which asks: "How is honoring books the key to my future?" In addition, El Dia De Los Niños in Laredo will include workshops in book appreciation, classical music, and art, to help spark the imaginations of the city's children and to inspire them to explore their potential.

I encourage you to join me in celebrating all of our children on this April 30th. Our children genuinely are the architects of our future, and we should all work together to do what we can do to support strong families, better education, and a brighter future for the next generation.

HONORING DR. JOYCE GIFFORD,
RHODE ISLAND SMALL BUSINESS
PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Joyce Gifford, a veterinarian from Cumberland, RI, who was recently named 2005 Rhode Island Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Administration (SBA). Dr. Gifford is the owner of Abbot Valley Veterinary Center, a successful practice that employs a number of Rhode Islanders and provides extraordinary care for family pets.

Dr. Gifford possessed remarkable professional qualifications, having graduating at the top of her class from the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine and worked in some of the nation's most renowned veterinary hospitals. Dr. Gifford had always dreamed of starting her own veterinary practice, but her aspirations were put on hold when she had trouble securing the initial financing. Seeking advice, Dr. Gifford turned to the SBA and SCORE for assistance. These agencies helped Dr. Gifford improve her business plan and provided the loan assistance